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CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Original) A television set-top terminal, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer program code means; and

means for executing said computer program code means to implement an Application Programming Interface (API) for accessing and managing multiple resources at the terminal, wherein:

the API provides a resource package for registering the available resources at the terminal, a management package for managing states of the resources, and a registry package for storing objects that represent the resources.

2.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

the management package manages the states of the resources according to an ITU-T X.731 standard for state management.

3.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the available resources include at least one of:

a tuner, a modem, a database, a plug-in module, a cable, a software module, a network interface card, and a conditional access module.

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4.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the API provides a resource registry

for maintaining a record of resource managers that provide access to individual resources.

5.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

the API is independent of an operating system and hardware of the terminal.

6.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

the API groups resources of the same type, and manages the grouped resources as

a group.

7.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

the API monitors behavior of the resources, and attaches corresponding

management information to the resources.

8.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API enables the resources to advertise their respective states to at least one

application at the terminal.

9.   (Original) The terminal of claim 8, wherein:

said API enables the application to access the advertised states of the advertising

resources.

10.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

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said API enables administrative locking and unlocking of the resources.

11.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API enables the resources to advertise respective alarm statuses thereof to at

least one application at the terminal.

12.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API cnables the resources to advertise respective availability statuses thereof

to at least one application at the terminal.

13.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API enables the resources to advertise respective procedural statuses thereof

to at least one application at the terminal.

14.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API enables the resources to advertise respective operational states thereof to

at least one application at the terminal.

15.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

said API enables the resources to advertise respective administrative states thereof

to at least one application at the terminal.

16.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

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said API enables the resources to advertise respective usage states thereof to at

least one application at the terminal.

17.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

The resources are used for downloadable applications at the terminal.

18.   (Currently amended) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the applications include at

least one of:

video on demand (VOD), audio on demand, pay-per-view, interactive shopping,

electronic commerce, electronic program guides, Internet browsers, mail services (e.g.,

text e-mail, voice mail, audio mail, and/or video mail), telephony services, stock ticker,

weather data, travel information, games, gambling, banking, shopping, [[and]] voting,

and mail services, where said mail services include at least one of: text e-mail, voice

mail, audio mail, and video mail.

19.   (Original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein:

The applications enable at least one of Internet connectivity and Internet-based

telephony.

20.   (Original) A method for implementing a software architecture for a television set-

top terminal, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer readable medium having computer program code means;

and

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executing said computer program code means to implement an Application

Programming Interface (API) for accessing and managing multiple resources at the

terminal; wherein:

the API provides a resource package for registering the available resources at the

terminal, a management package for managing states of the resources, and a registry

package for storing objects that represent the resources.

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